BILLING CODE 6717-01-P DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Mr. Ray F. Ward

Project No. 9842-006

NOTICE OF APPLICATION READY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND PRESCRIPTIONS

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: Minor New License

b. Project No.: 9842-006

c. Date filed: August 28, 2014

d. Applicant: Mr. Ray F. Ward

e. Name of Project: Ward Mill Hydroelectric Project

- f. Location: On the Watauga River, in the Township of Laurel Creek, Watauga County, North Carolina. The project does not occupy lands of the United States.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 USC 791 (a) 825(r)
- h. Applicant Contact: Andrew C. Givens, Cardinal Energy Service, Inc., 620 N. West St., Suite 103, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603, (919) 834-0909.
- i. FERC Contact: Adam Peer (202) 502-8449, adam.peer@ferc.gov.
- j. Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions: 60 days from the issuance date of this notice; reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters can submit

brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-9842-006.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

- k. This application has been accepted, and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.
- 1. The Ward Mill Project consists of: (1) a 4.6 acre reservoir with an estimated gross storage capacity of 16.3 acre-feet; (2) a 130-foot-long by 20-foot-high dam; (3) a 14-footlong, 5-foot-wide, and 7.5-foot-tall penstock made of rock, concrete and reinforced steel; (4) a powerhouse containing two generating units for a total installed capacity of 168 kilowatts; (5) interconnection with the utility at the meter point on the southwest, exterior wall of the powerhouse; and (6) appurtenant facilities. The project is estimated to generate from about 290,000 to about 599,000 kilowatt-hours annually. The dam and existing facilities are owned by the applicant. No new project facilities are proposed.
- m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "REPLY COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," or "PRESCRIPTIONS;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies should indicate which

recommendations are being submitted pursuant to section 10(j) of the Federal Power Act (16 USC 803(j)). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. A license applicant must file no later than 60 days following the date of issuance of this notice: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of waiver of water quality certification.

DATED: September 30, 2015

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

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